



Chapter 55 Meeting Summary

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Facilitators and Task Force (TF) review January 25th and 26th work sessions. TF make reflect on take-aways from the meetings, including tension between state quality and flexibility at the local level, establishing the minimum standard, funding, school size, and preparing for the future.

Facilitators review the interview responses conducted by TF members and describe the common themes found in the responses. Common themes identified in question one (how do you determine if a school is successful?) include growth (academic, SEL, and mindsets), interpreting data, and post-secondary preparation outcomes (graduation rates, ACT, employment rates, etc.). Themes found in question two (what are the essential elements of a successful school?) include the role of SEL in education, quality staff and positive school culture, and a shared vision with all stakeholders. Next, themes found in question three (how should we ensure that the essential elements for a successful school are in place?) include the retention and longevity of quality staff, funding, facilities, and how stakeholders take part in their school. Lastly, question four (should quality standards be linked to staffing requirements?) include funding, staffing requirements, and flexibility in staffing ratios without the fear of an unfunded mandate.

TF and facilitators briefly discuss teachers that hold visas. TF and facilitators briefly discuss correspondence from a Western MASS meeting.

Facilitators review the draft of the field survey. TF members begin reviewing and discussing each question. Adjustments are made and a second draft will be shared with the TF to be tested before being sent out to the public.

Public comment is given.

Facilitators review the homework and adjourn the meeting.